

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1655

To authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants for the support of full-service community schools, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BURRIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants for the support of full-service community schools, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Full-Service Commu-
5 nity Schools Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are the following:

1 (1) Providing support for the planning, imple-
2 mentation, and operation of full-service community
3 schools.

4 (2) Improving the coordination, availability, and
5 effectiveness of services for children and families.

6 (3) Enabling principals and teachers to com-
7 plement and enrich efforts to help all children reach
8 proficiency in reading and math by 2014.

9 (4) Ensuring that children come to school ready
10 to learn every day.

11 (5) Enabling families to participate in the edu-
12 cation of their children.

13 (6) Enabling more efficient use of Federal,
14 State, local, and private sector resources that serve
15 children and families.

16 (7) Facilitating the coordination of programs
17 operated by community-based organizations, non-
18 profit organizations, and State, local, and tribal gov-
19 ernments.

20 (8) Engaging students as resources to their
21 communities.

22 (9) Engaging the business community and
23 other community organizations as partners in the
24 development of full-service community schools.

1 **SEC. 3. FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL.**

2 For purposes of this Act, the term “full-service com-
3 munity school” means a public elementary or secondary
4 school that—

5 (1) participates in a community-based effort to
6 coordinate educational, developmental, family,
7 health, and other comprehensive services through
8 community-based organizations and public and pri-
9 vate partnerships; and

10 (2) provides access to such services to students,
11 families, and the community.

12 **SEC. 4. LOCAL PROGRAMS.**

13 (a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Education (in this
14 Act referred to as the “Secretary”) may award grants to
15 eligible entities to assist public elementary or secondary
16 schools to function as full-service community schools.

17 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this sec-
18 tion shall be used to coordinate not less than 3 qualified
19 existing services and provide not less than 2 qualified ad-
20 ditional services at 1 or more public elementary or sec-
21 ondary schools.

22 (c) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this sec-
23 tion, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the
24 Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Sec-
25 retary may require. The Secretary shall require that each
26 such application include the following:

1 (1) A description of the eligible entity.

2 (2) A list of partner entities that will assist the
3 eligible entity to coordinate and provide qualified
4 services.

5 (3) A memorandum of understanding between
6 the eligible entity and all partner entities describing
7 the role the partner entities will assume.

8 (4) A description of the capacity of the eligible
9 entity to coordinate and provide qualified services at
10 a full-service community school.

11 (5) A comprehensive plan that includes descrip-
12 tions of the following:

13 (A) The student, family, and school com-
14 munity to be served, including information
15 about the demographic characteristics and
16 needs of students, families, and community resi-
17 dents, the number of families and students to
18 be served, and the frequency of services.

19 (B) Yearly measurable performance goals
20 for the program, including an increase in the
21 percentage of families and students targeted for
22 services each year of the program and improved
23 outcomes for students and families, particularly
24 student academic achievement.

1 (C) Performance measures to monitor
2 progress toward attainment of the goals estab-
3 lished under subparagraph (B).

4 (D) Qualified services, existing and addi-
5 tional, to be coordinated and provided by the el-
6 igible entity and its partner entities, including
7 an explanation of why these services have been
8 selected, and how they respond to specified
9 needs.

10 (E) Plans to ensure that each site has full-
11 time coordination of qualified services at each
12 full-service community school.

13 (F) Planning, coordination, management,
14 and oversight of qualified services at each
15 school to be served, including the role of the
16 school principal, partner entities, parents, and
17 members of the community.

18 (G) Funding sources for qualified services
19 to be coordinated and provided at each school
20 to be served, whether such funding is derived
21 from grants under this section or from other
22 Federal, State, local, or private sources.

23 (H) Plans for professional development for
24 personnel managing, or coordinating or deliv-

1 ering qualified services at, the schools to be
2 served.

3 (I) Plans for joint utilization and mainte-
4 nance of school facilities by the eligible entity
5 and its partner entities.

6 (J) How the eligible entity and its partners
7 will focus services on schools eligible for a
8 schoolwide program under section 1114 of the
9 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
10 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6314).

11 (K) Plans for periodic evaluation based
12 upon attainment of the performance measures
13 described in subparagraph (C).

14 (L) How the provision and coordination of
15 qualified services is expected to improve student
16 academic achievement.

17 (M) How the qualified services will meet
18 the principles of effectiveness described in sub-
19 section (d).

20 (6) A plan for sustainability.

21 (d) PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVENESS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—For a program developed
23 pursuant to this section to meet principles of effec-
24 tiveness, such program shall—

1 (A) be based upon an assessment of objec-
2 tive data regarding the need for the establish-
3 ment of a full-service community school and
4 qualified services at each school to be served
5 and in the community involved;

6 (B) be based upon an established set of
7 performance measures aimed at ensuring the
8 availability and effectiveness of high-quality
9 services; and

10 (C) if appropriate, be based upon scientif-
11 ically-based research that provides evidence that
12 the qualified services involved will help students
13 meet State and local student academic achieve-
14 ment standards.

15 (e) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
16 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities
17 that—

18 (1) will serve 2 or more full-service community
19 schools eligible for a school-wide program under sec-
20 tion 1114 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6314);

22 (2) demonstrate a record of effectiveness in co-
23 ordinating multiple qualified services;

1 (3) will serve more than 1 full-service commu-
 2 nity school as part of a community- or district-wide
 3 strategy; and

4 (4) will be connected to a school and commu-
 5 nity partnership group that brings together key
 6 stakeholders across sectors, such as the local edu-
 7 cational agency, parents and neighborhood residents,
 8 youth, local government, institutions of higher edu-
 9 cation, teacher unions, community-based organiza-
 10 tions, business and civic groups, and others to im-
 11 prove results for students and their families.

12 (f) GRANT PERIOD.—Each grant awarded under this
 13 section shall be for a period of 5 years and may be renewed
 14 at the discretion of the Secretary based on demonstrated
 15 effectiveness in meeting performance goals and measure
 16 as described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subsection
 17 (c)(5).

18 (g) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary may not
 19 award a grant to an eligible entity under this section in
 20 an amount that is less than \$75,000 for each year of the
 21 5-year grant period.

22 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 (1) The term “additional services” means serv-
 24 ices directly funded under this Act.

1 (2) The term “eligible entity” means a consor-
2 tium of a local educational agency and 1 or more
3 community-based organizations, nonprofit organiza-
4 tions, or other public or private entities.

5 (3) The term “existing services” means services
6 already being financed by Federal, State, local or
7 private sources, or volunteer activities being sup-
8 ported by civic, business, faith-based, social, and
9 other similar organizations.

10 (4) The term “qualified services” means any of
11 the following:

12 (A) Early childhood education.

13 (B) Remedial education activities and en-
14 richment activities.

15 (C) Programs under the Head Start Act,
16 including Early Head Start programs.

17 (D) Programs that promote parental in-
18 volvement and family literacy, including the
19 Reading First, Early Reading First, and Wil-
20 liam F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy
21 programs authorized in part B of title I of the
22 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
23 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6361 et seq.).

24 (E) Mentoring and other youth develop-
25 ment programs.

1 (F) Parent leadership development activi-
 2 ties.

3 (G) Parenting education activities.

4 (H) Child care services.

5 (I) Community service and service learning
 6 opportunities.

7 (J) Programs that provide assistance to
 8 students who have been truant, suspended, or
 9 expelled.

10 (K) Job training and career counseling
 11 services.

12 (L) Nutrition services.

13 (M) Primary health and dental care.

14 (N) Mental health counseling services.

15 (O) Adult education, including instruction
 16 in English as a second language.

17 (P) Other services consistent with this Act.

18 **SEC. 5. STATE PROGRAMS.**

19 (a) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award grants to
 20 State collaboratives to support the development of full-
 21 service community school programs in accordance with
 22 this section.

23 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this sec-
 24 tion shall be used only for the following:

1 (1) Planning, coordinating, and expanding the
2 development of full-service community schools in the
3 State, particularly schools in high-poverty local edu-
4 cational agencies.

5 (2) Providing technical assistance and training
6 for full-service community schools, including profes-
7 sional development for personnel and creation of
8 data collection and evaluation systems.

9 (3) Collecting, evaluating, and reporting data
10 about the progress of full-service community schools.

11 (4) Evaluating the impact of State and Federal
12 policies and guidelines on the ability of eligible enti-
13 ties to integrate Federal and State programs at full-
14 service community schools, and taking action to
15 make necessary changes.

16 (c) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this sec-
17 tion, a State collaborative shall submit an application to
18 the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the
19 Secretary may require. The Secretary shall require that
20 each such application include the following:

21 (1) A list of all governmental agencies and non-
22 profit organizations that will participate as members
23 of the State collaborative.

24 (2) A description of the expertise of each mem-
25 ber of the State collaborative—

1 (A) in coordinating Federal and State pro-
2 grams across multiple agencies;

3 (B) in working with and developing the ca-
4 pacity of full-service community schools; and

5 (C) in working with high-poverty schools
6 and local educational agencies.

7 (3) A comprehensive plan describing how the
8 grant will be used to plan, coordinate, and expand
9 the delivery of services at full-service community
10 schools.

11 (4) A comprehensive accountability plan that
12 will be used to demonstrate effectiveness, including
13 the measurable performance goals of the program
14 and performance measures to monitor progress and
15 assess services' impact on students and families and
16 academic achievement.

17 (5) An explanation of how the State collabo-
18 rative will provide technical assistance and training,
19 including professional development, for full-service
20 community schools.

21 (6) An explanation of how the State will collect
22 and evaluate information on full-service community
23 schools.

24 (d) GRANT PERIOD.—Each grant awarded under this
25 section shall be for a period of 5 years.

1 (e) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary may not
 2 award a grant to a State collaborative under this section
 3 in an amount that is less than \$500,000 for each year
 4 of the 5-year grant period.

5 (f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

6 (1) The term “State” includes the several
 7 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
 8 of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern
 9 Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Vir-
 10 gin Islands, and any other territory or possession of
 11 the United States.

12 (2) The term “State collaborative” means a col-
 13 laborative of a State educational agency and not less
 14 than 2 other governmental agencies or nonprofit or-
 15 ganizations that provide services to children and
 16 families.

17 **SEC. 6. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established
 19 an advisory committee to be known as the “Full-Service
 20 Community Schools Advisory Committee” (in this section
 21 referred to as the “Advisory Committee”).

22 (b) DUTIES.—Subject to subsection (c), the Advisory
 23 Committee shall—

1 (1) consult with the Secretary on the develop-
2 ment and implementation of programs under this
3 Act;

4 (2) identify strategies to improve the coordina-
5 tion of Federal programs in support of full-service
6 community schools; and

7 (3) issue an annual report to the Congress on
8 efforts under this Act, including a description of—

9 (A) the results of local and national eval-
10 uation of such efforts; and

11 (B) the scope of services being coordinated
12 under this Act.

13 (c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out its duties under
14 this section, the Advisory Committee shall consult annu-
15 ally with eligible entities awarded grants under section 4,
16 State collaboratives awarded grants under section 5, and
17 other entities with expertise in operating full-service com-
18 munity schools.

19 (d) MEMBERS.—The Advisory Committee shall con-
20 sist of 5 members as follows:

21 (1) The Secretary of Education (or the Sec-
22 retary's delegate).

23 (2) The Attorney General of the United States
24 (or the Attorney General's delegate).

1 (3) The Secretary of Agriculture (or the Sec-
2 retary's delegate).

3 (4) The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
4 ices (or the Secretary's delegate).

5 (5) The Secretary of Labor (or the Secretary's
6 delegate).

7 **SEC. 7. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

8 (a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary, di-
9 rectly or through grants, shall provide such technical as-
10 sistance as may be appropriate to accomplish the purposes
11 of this Act.

12 (b) EVALUATIONS BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary
13 shall conduct evaluations on the effectiveness of grants
14 under sections 4 and 5 in achieving the purposes of this
15 Act.

16 (c) EVALUATIONS BY GRANTEES.—The Secretary
17 shall require each recipient of a grant under this Act—

18 (1) to conduct periodic evaluations of the
19 progress achieved with the grant toward achieving
20 the purposes of this Act;

21 (2) to use such evaluations to refine and im-
22 prove activities conducted with the grant and the
23 performance measures for such activities; and

1 (3) to make the results of such evaluations pub-
 2 licly available, including by providing public notice of
 3 such availability.

4 (d) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made
 5 available to a grantee under this Act may be used only
 6 to supplement, and not supplant, any other Federal, State,
 7 or local funds that would otherwise be available to carry
 8 out the activities assisted under this Act.

9 (e) MATCHING FUNDS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require
 11 each recipient of a grant under this Act to provide
 12 matching funds from non-Federal sources in an
 13 amount determined under paragraph (2).

14 (2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF MATCH.—

15 (A) SLIDING SCALE.—Subject to subpara-
 16 graph (B), the Secretary shall determine the
 17 amount of matching funds to be required of a
 18 grantee under this subsection based on a sliding
 19 fee scale that takes into account—

20 (i) the relative poverty of the popu-
 21 lation to be targeted by the grantee; and

22 (ii) the ability of the grantee to obtain
 23 such matching funds.

24 (B) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary
 25 may not require any grantee under this section

1 to provide matching funds in an amount that
 2 exceeds the amount of the grant award.

3 (3) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary
 4 shall permit grantees under this section to match
 5 funds in whole or in part with in-kind contributions.

6 (4) CONSIDERATION.—Notwithstanding this
 7 subsection, the Secretary shall not consider an appli-
 8 cant’s ability to match funds when determining
 9 which applicants will receive grants under this Act.

10 (f) SPECIAL RULE.—Entities receiving funds under
 11 this Act shall comply with all existing Federal statutes
 12 that prohibit discrimination.

13 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
 15 priated to carry out this Act \$200,000,000 for fiscal year
 16 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal
 17 years 2011 through 2014.

18 (b) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts appropriated to
 19 carry out this Act for each fiscal year—

20 (1) 75 percent shall be for section 4;

21 (2) 20 percent shall be for section 5; and

22 (3) of the remaining 5 percent, not less than
 23 \$500,000 shall be for technical assistance under sec-
 24 tion 7(a).

○